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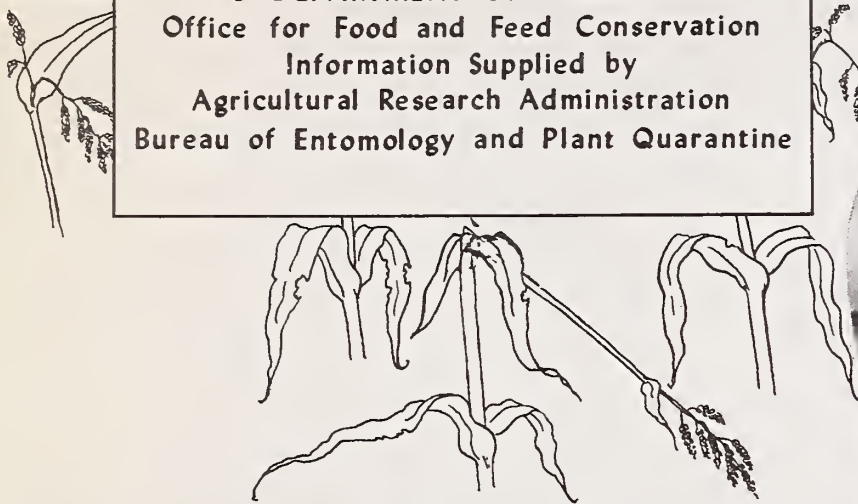
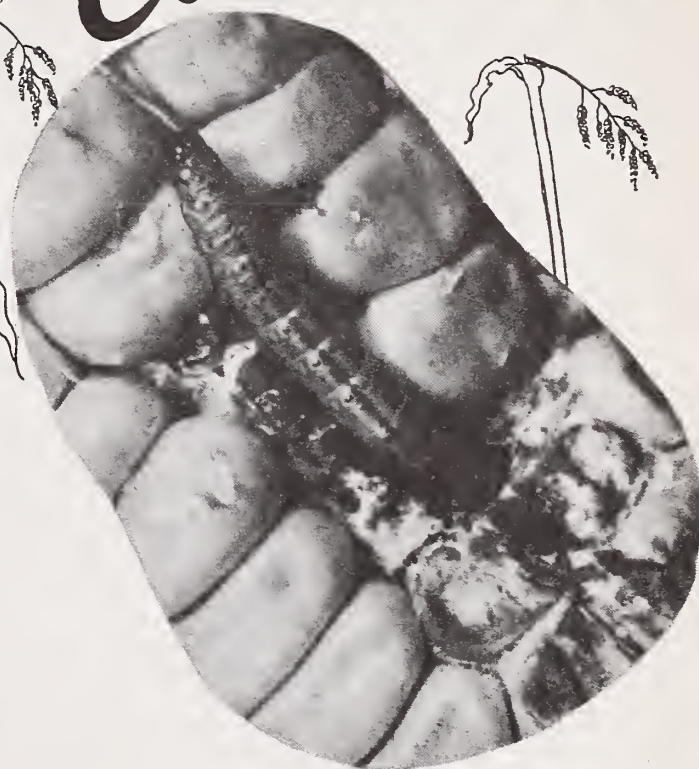


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# SAVE CORN FROM THE

# European Corn Borer!

U. S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE  
Office for Food and Feed Conservation  
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Losses from attacks of the European corn borer are growing year by year as it invades and becomes abundant in new areas. In 1947 this pest caused damage estimated at nearly \$100,000,000, more than 20 times the damage of 1941. It is now known to occur in 28 States, including the entire Corn Belt. In the six States in the heart of the Corn Belt—Illinois, Indiana, Iowa, Minnesota, Ohio, and Wisconsin—corn borer losses in 1947 amounted to about 35,700,000 bushels of field corn.

Corn is a 3-billion dollar crop in the United States—greater in acreage, dollar value, and diversity of byproducts than any other two crops combined—and the need for an all-out fight to bring the European corn borer under control has become obvious. Research has developed new methods of control. These methods should be put into practice wherever the borer is a pest. Corn Belt farmers should make every effort to become thoroughly acquainted with the facts of corn borer control and, by all means, attend all community borer-control meetings.

Many States have scheduled community meetings to give up-to-date information on corn borer control. Advice given at these meetings covers cultural practices, plow attachments, methods of destroying corn stalks and debris, habits of the borer, how to recognize infestations, when to start applying insecticides, and all the latest methods of control. Such information is the ammunition necessary to wage a successful fight.

Here is a 5-point program that should be followed by corn growers in 1948 to fight the borer, save corn, and increase income:

1. Kill wintering borers.
2. Use proper varieties.
3. Plant at right time.
4. Look for egg laying.
5. Use insecticides if needed.

## Kill Wintering Borers

Proper cultural methods will help kill the borer before the moths emerge. Follow all cultural control methods recommended by your county agricultural advisers. Plow last year's corn fields cleanly before moths emerge in spring. Process all cornstalks used for fodder by recommended methods such as shredding or ensiling. Destroy corn remnants wherever possible.

## Use Proper Varieties

Certain hybrid varieties of corn are better suited than others to your locality. These hybrids have been developed through years of research. Close

observation has shown which ones do best under various conditions of soil and climate. Resistance to borer damage has been considered carefully, wherever possible, in selecting the lines used to make up hybrids. Locally adapted hybrids can be expected to give higher average yields and better quality than any others.

## Plant at Right Time

Do not plant corn extremely early. At the same time, do not risk loss of yield by unduly retarding your planting. Planting dates which will take advantage of the maximum safe growing season have been determined by your State experiment station. You will increase your yield of sound corn and minimize losses due to early fall frosts by following recommended planting dates.

## Look For Egg Laying

Examine early planted and vigorously growing fields of corn for egg masses. This is the best way to determine when to start insecticide treatment. Corn borer moths lay their eggs on the tallest and most vigorously growing corn in the neighborhood. Examine such fields frequently during June and early July. Some States will maintain an insect-reporting service for corn growers this year. Your county agent can advise both on type of field to be treated and when to start treatment. Follow his recommendations closely.

## Use Insecticides if Needed

Treat fields with DDT or Ryania sprays or dusts when you find 25 or more egg masses per 100 plants in the early-summer period of moth flight. In order to get highest possible corn production, it is important to treat every corn field that needs it, whether market sweet corn, canning corn, seed corn, or field corn. Ask your county agent for advice on how to make egg counts, and on best insecticides to use and how to use them.

**CAUTION.**—Most chemicals used in insecticides are poisonous. Handle with care and use according to directions. Keep them away from children and store in plainly marked containers away from food and feed materials.

### *States known to have European corn borer*

Connecticut	Massachusetts	Ohio
Delaware	Michigan	Pennsylvania
Illinois	Minnesota	Rhode Island
Indiana	Missouri	South Dakota
Iowa	Nebraska	Tennessee
Kansas	New Hampshire	Vermont
Kentucky	New Jersey	Virginia
Maine	New York	West Virginia
Maryland	North Carolina	Wisconsin
	North Dakota	

